

COMMUNICATION FROM THE  
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, February 13, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,

*The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of rule II of the rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on February 13, 2006, at 2:50 pm:

That the Senate passed S. 2275.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,  
*Clerk of the House*

COMMUNICATION FROM THE  
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OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, February 13, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,

*The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on February 10, 2006, at 10:05 a.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 22.

That the Senate agreed to H. Con. Res 331.

That the Senate passed S. 2166.

Appointment:

United States-China Economic Security Review Commission.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,  
*Clerk of the House.*

COMMUNICATION FROM RANKING  
MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable Charles B. Rangel, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways and Means:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,  
Washington DC, February 13, 2006.

DEAR SPEAKER HASTERT: Pursuant to section 11142 of SAFETEA-LU (P.L. 109-59), I hereby appoint to the National Surface Transportation Infrastructure Financing Commission the following individuals:

Mr. Elliot (Lee) Sander, Director of the Rudin Center for Transportation Policy and Management at New York University, and Senior Vice President and Director of Strategic Development at DMJM Harris, of New York City, New York.

Mr. Craig Lentzsch, CEO of Coach USA and KBUS Holdings, of Dallas, Texas.

Sincerely,

CHARLES B. RANGEL,  
*Ranking Member.*

COMMUNICATION FROM THE OF-  
FICE OF THE 50TH DISTRICT OF  
CALIFORNIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Nancy Lifset, Office of the 50th District of California:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
Washington, DC, February 8, 2006.

Hon. DENNIS HASTERT,

*Speaker of the House, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a grand jury subpoena, issued by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California, for testimony.

After consultation with counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

NANCY LIFSET,  
*Office of the 50th District of California.*

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER  
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING  
THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE USO  
TO OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 322) expressing the Sense of Congress regarding the contribution of the USO to the morale and welfare of our servicemen and women of our armed forces and their families, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 322

Whereas the United Service Organizations, Incorporated (the USO), a nonprofit, charitable organization, was founded in 1941 to provide morale and recreation services to military personnel and in 2006 is celebrating its 65th anniversary of service to United States servicemembers around the world;

Whereas the USO is chartered by Congress and is endorsed by the President and the Department of Defense to provide morale, welfare, and recreation-type services to members of the Armed Forces and their families;

Whereas the USO operates 124 centers around the world, including six mobile canteens, through which support is provided to members of the Armed Forces and their families, who visit those facilities more than 5,000,000 times per year;

Whereas the USO relies on over 33,000 volunteers providing approximately 400,000

hours of service per year, in both peacetime and time of conflict;

Whereas the USO plays an important role in contributing to the success of the Nation's military mission by providing a reliable private connection directly supporting the morale, welfare, and recreational needs of the members of the Armed Forces; and

Whereas the crucial link to home provided by the USO is made possible through the generous contributions of more than 1,000,000 American citizens and scores of corporations: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress extends its appreciation to the United Service Organizations, Incorporated (the USO), on its 65th anniversary and recognizes that the work of that organization in supporting the members of the Armed Forces and their families is a valued contribution to the success and mission of the Armed Forces.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution currently under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the United Service Organizations, established on February 4 of 1941, has become a national treasure. In every war and every theater of operation since World War II where Americans have been deployed, the USO has been there to entertain and to increase the morale and welfare of the men and women in the military and their families. As the chairman of the USO Caucus it is my pleasure to bring this resolution to the floor today.

When the organization was formed, the military was expanding rapidly for the impending conflict. Between 1940 and 1944 the size of our military grew from 50,000 to over 12 million. At its high point during the Second World War the USO had over 3,000 clubs and 1.5 million volunteers to provide services to military personnel. On the entertainment side, the U.S. provided 428,521 shows and performances. To put this figure into perspective around the world, the USO would do sometimes 700 shows a day. It estimates that over 7,000 entertainers were sent overseas to entertain our troops.

Today, USO facilities are visited over 5 million times a year; and although the USO does have a paid staff, the bulk of the service that they provide is through 12,000 volunteers who donate over 450,000 hours annually.

In 2005, the USO sent out over 50 celebrity entertainment tours. Almost